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USSR EXPANDS PIPELINE SYSTEM; IMPROVES PETROLEUM-EXTRACTION EQUIPMENT

IMPORTANCE OF PIPELINES TO PETROLEUM AND GAS INDUSTRIES -- Moscow, Izvestiya, 30 Oct 52

During the period covered by the five-year plans, thousands of kilometers of pipeline for petroleum, petroleum products, and gas were laid. The pipelines convey petroleum for hundreds or even thousands of kilometers from the oil fields to the refineries and carry petroleum products such as gasoline, kerosene, and diesel fuel for industry and agriculture, as well as gas, from the point where they are produced or extracted to large cities and populated areas of the country.

Pipeline transport will grow increasingly important during the fifth Five-Year Plan. In 1955, it should reach a level five times as great as in 1950.

Pipelines can be laid in any locality and are to be found crossing the steppes, the forests, and the taiga, as well as rivers, lakes, gullies, railroads, and highways.

Special pumping stations have been constructed with a pumping capacity of 150-350 cubic meters per hour to carry petroleum to distant localities. The pumps are set in motion by internal combustion engines or electric motors. Under a pressure of 50-60 atmospheres these aggregates convey petroleum, gasoline, kerosene, gas and other petroleum products to their destination.

A pipeline of average size, extending for 200 kilometers and serviced by one pumping station, can transport as much petroleum daily as a railroad could carry in 1,400 tank cars.

Transport of petroleum and petroleum products by pipeline is the most ideal and, economically, the most efficient type of transport since it permits a maximum reduction in the losses of petroleum products and at the same time preserves their quality. There is no leakage or loss of petroleum products from evaporation. The costs of transporting petroleum products are three to four times less per ton-kilometer by pipeline than by railroad.

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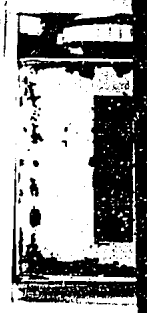

Gas pipelines are the only type of transport for large amounts of gas.

The Soviet gas industry, which was nonexistent in pre-Revolutionary Pussia, developed on a broad scale during the five-year plans and at present the cities of Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, and Saratov are among those which receive gas by pipeline for domestic purposes. In the near future, gas will be supplied to the majority of the USSR large cities.

At present, tens of thousands of tank cars and tankers are employed to carry petroleum to refineries, and gasoline, kerosene, oil, and mazut to agriculture and industry, but pipelines are increasingly relieving the railroad and sea-going and river boats of the transport of petroleum. The large diameter of the pipelines being constructed permits transport of the commodity with a minimum of intermediate pumping stations.

IMPROVED EQUIPMENT UPS OUTPUT -- Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 10 Sep 52

Improved equipment and tools have permitted Soviet petroleum workers to exploit oil wells with the pump lowered to a depth of 2,500 meters and to carry out forced extraction with a yield of 300-400 cubic meters of liquid each 24 hours.

Workers of the AzINMASH found that slight changes in the design of the reducing gear pumping jacks in use in the oil fields would improve the jacks' productivity. An increase in the stroke of existing pumping jacks, resulting from replacing their crankshafts, increases the productivity of the SKN-3 and SKN-5 pumping jacks 67 percent, that of the SKN-6 43 percent, and of the SKN-7 50 percent.

For example, in oil well No 806 of the Ordzhonikidzeneft' Trust, the daily yield increased from 5.2 to 7.4 tons when the stroke of the machine was lengthened from 2,100 millimeters to 3,000. Petroleum extraction from well No 164 increased from 3.1 to 5.4 tons per day when the stroke of the pumping jack was lengthened.

At present, 120 pumping jacks in oil fields of the Azneft' Association have been remodeled, making possible a daily increase in output for each well of up to one ton.

High-speed development of the petroleum industry demands improvement in equipment for compressor exploitation. The activity of designers and machine builders should be directed to the development and introduction of high-pressure compressors (up to 250 atmospheres) with electric and gas drive. Such machines are essential for the widespread development of secondary methods in petroleum extraction.

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